

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 10-21 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 6, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Publication No. 2006/0067190 A1 issued to Kurobe et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,014 B2 issued to Masaki et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,404,707 B1 issued to Kaneda et al. Claims 4 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurobe in view Masaki and Kaneda and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2004/0130993 A1 issued to Nadershahi. Claims 10 and 13-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurobe in view Masaki. Claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurobe in view Masaki and Nadershahi. Claim 21 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kurobe in view Masaki and further in view of WO 2003/091935 A3 issued to Stan. Applicants have amended Claims 1, 10 and 18 as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

The Commissioner is authorized to deduct any additional fees which may be necessary and to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502264.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically submitted to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS via EFS on April 7, 2008.

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Respectfully submitted,

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